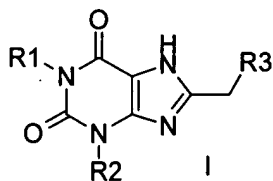


## ABSTRACT

The present invention is a sulfonamide substituted xanthine derivative of formula

I



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are as defined in the specification. Compounds of formula I and pharmaceutically acceptable salts or prodrugs thereof show activity as modulators of gluconeogenesis.

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